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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Takaki NAKAMURA et al.  
Serial No.: 10/736,630  
Filed: December 17, 2003  
For: DISTRIBUTED FILE SYSTEM  
Group: 2153  
Examiner: Not yet assigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 14, 2005

Sir:

Before examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims**

**Remarks are included following the amendments.**